

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 204

BY SENATOR MCMATH

A RESOLUTION

To commend Vincent "Vince" Charles Latino Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from the Department of Transportation and Development and for his service to the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Vince Latino and to commend him for dedicating thirty years of service to the Department of Transportation and Development; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino is a native of Ponchatoula, Louisiana, where he resides today on the same property where he was born and raised, and he is a 1987 graduate of Ponchatoula High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Mr. Latino graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation, Mr. Latino joined the Department of Transportation and Development where he worked in the bridge maintenance section, concentrating on movable bridges, pumping stations, and tunnels; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino worked directly with department staff to troubleshoot and repair state movable bridges, and he worked on projects for generator installation and repairs to movable bridges, pump stations, and ferry boats; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino managed ferry operations at the New Roads/St. Francisville, Plaquemine/Sunshine, White Castle/Carville, and Edgard/Reserve locations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino was pivotal during the implementation of the department's maintenance management system in 2010 and he continued to be involved in the maintenance management system until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino was promoted to maintenance systems management and held that position until being promoted to chief maintenance engineer responsible for overseeing all of the department's maintenance sections and statewide maintenance policy; and

WHEREAS, during his time as the chief maintenance engineer, Mr. Latino ushered in the Equipment Operator Roadeo in 2014, resulting in Louisiana joining several other southern states in an annual regional competition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino directed the implementation of the department's Innovations Showcase, a program designed to identify, recognize, and share the best innovations in the Department of Transportation and Development, office of operations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino was promoted to deputy assistant secretary of operations in 2016, responsible for overseeing the nine department districts statewide as well as maintenance management, loss prevention, traffic services, intelligent transportation systems, tolling operations, truck permits, and facilities planning; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Mr. Latino was appointed by Secretary Shawn Wilson to serve as the assistant secretary of operations and in his new role, he was responsible for the oversight and maintenance of eight thousand bridges and sixteen thousand five hundred centerline miles of roadway throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino served in many critical roles in directing the department's emergency response efforts for hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, Ike, Isaac, Laura, Delta, Zeta, and Ida, as well as flood events and winter weather response; and

WHEREAS, during his time as assistant secretary of operations, Mr. Latino was involved with the implementation of several safety measures to better protect department staff on the roadside including implementation of high visibility safety uniforms, transitioning to an enhanced green and amber warning light layout on equipment, and the addition of eighty-plus trailer-mounted crash attenuators for use in the department's maintenance activities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino was appointed to serve as the designee for the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development on numerous boards and commissions and, most recently served on Governor Edwards' Litter Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Latino follows in the footsteps of his father, the late Vincent Charles Latino Sr., as a retiree of the Department of Transportation and Development and in retirement, plans to perfect his golf and bowling games and spend quality time with his wife and newborn baby; and

WHEREAS, Vincent Charles Latino Jr. merits the highest commendation and sincere congratulations for his exemplary service to the Department of Transportation and Development and the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Vincent Charles Latino Jr. on the occasion of his retirement and recognize his distinguished service to the state of Louisiana and extend sincerest wishes for his continued prosperity as he begins his time in retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Vincent "Vince" Latino Jr.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE